C1 cancel.

preventing the issuance of a command responding to the request for the operation until the time authorizing use of the encoded data if the current time is judged not to be in the time period authorizing use of the encoded data.

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the instant application are respectfully requested. Claims 5-8, 10-13, and 15-18 remain pending. Claims 1-4, 9, and 14 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

The undersigned appreciates the courtesy of the interview on December 11, 2002.

Claims 1-18 stood rejected under 35 USC 102(e) over Pinder et al. (US 6,105,134). Insofar as they apply to pending claims 5-8, 10-13, and 15-18, this rejection is respectfully traversed.

The instant claims recite "a plurality of independently operated processing units configured to respectively execute different operations on the decoded data." Fig. 2, numerals 210, 214, 218, of the present application provides an example of a plurality of independently operated processing units providing different operations, that is a display processing unit, a printing processing unit, and a storage processing unit. Such a plurality of independently operated processing units for executing different operations is not taught or suggested by Pinder.

In the Advisory Action dated November 19, 2002, attention was drawn to Figure 2B and units 234, 236, and 238 used to decode an encrypted multi-session key. See also column 7, lines 4-22. These units described in Pinder are all decryption units, and are interrelated, relying on each other to provide a final output (service). The claimed invention, on the other hand, recites a plurality of processing units providing different and independent operations. Unlike Pinder, none of the processing units in the claimed invention rely on another processing unit to operate.

In Pinder, the "decoded data" may be output from a service reception component (DHCT) 333 in FIG. 3 (or a decoder 240 in FIG. 2B), and supplied to a DHCT secure element (DHCTSE) 627 in FIG. 12 through an interface 1203. According to col. 21, lines 55-57 of Pinder, the microprocessor 1201 executes the code for doing encryption, decryption, and

authentication and interpreting EMMs and EMCs. The microprocessor 1201 is specialized hardware for performing RSA encryption and decryption. See, col. 21, lines 34-35, of Pinder.

Pinder does not teach or suggest a plurality of independently operated processing units as required in the instant claims. Thus, Pinder does not teach or suggest the invention of the instant claims and withdrawal of the instant rejection is requested.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that no fee is required for this submission. If any fees are required or if an overpayment is made, the Commissioner is authorized to debit or credit our Deposit Account No. 19-0733, accordingly.

All previously rejections have been addressed, applicants respectfully submit that the instant application is in condition for allowance, and respectfully solicit prompt notification of the same.

Respectfully submitted,

BANNER & WITCOFF, LTD.

Dated: January 9, 2003

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MARKED-UP VERSION OF AMENDMENTS MADE

The claims are amended as follows:

5. (Twice Amended) An information utilization apparatus comprising:

a memory configured to store a delivered piece of information including encoded data and applicable time data defining a time period authorizing use of the encoded data;

a verification unit configured to verify whether the applicable time data included in the delivered piece of information in said memory has been falsified;

a plurality of decoding units configured to decode the encoded data stored in said memory unit;

a plurality of independently operated processing units arranged respectively corresponding to said plurality of decoding units and configured to respectively execute different operations on the data decoded by said plurality of decoding units;

a judging unit configured to judge if a current time is in the time period authorizing use of the encoded data according to the verified applicable time data in response to a request for an operation; and

an operation command issuing unit configured to issue a command responding to the request for the operation to a corresponding decoding unit and a corresponding processing unit if the current time is judged by said judging unit to be in the time period authorizing use of the encoded data according to the verified applicable time data.

MARKED-UP VERSION OF AMENDMENTS MADE

6. (Twice Amended) An information utilization apparatus comprising:

a memory configured to store a delivered piece of information including encoded data and applicable time data defining a time period authorizing use of the encoded data;

a verification unit configured to verify whether the applicable time data included in the delivered piece of information in said memory has been falsified;

a decoding unit configured to decode the encoded data stored in said memory;

a plain data storage unit configured to store the data decoded by said decoding unit;

a plurality of independently operated processing units configured to respectively execute different operations on the decoded data stored by said plain data storage unit;

a judging unit configured to judge if a current time is in the time period authorizing use of the encoded data according to the verified applicable time data in response to a request for an operation; and

an operation command issuing unit configured to issue a command responding to the request for the operation to said decoding unit and a corresponding processing unit if the current time is judged by said judging unit to be in the time period authorizing use of the encoded data according to the verified applicable time data and said plain data storage unit does not store the decoded data, and to issue a command responding to the request for the operation to a corresponding processing unit if the current time is judged by said judging unit to be in the time period authorizing use of the encoded data and said plain data storage unit stores the decoded data.

MARKED-UP VERSION OF AMENDMENTS MADE

7. (Twice Amended) An information utilization apparatus comprising:

a memory configured to store a delivered piece of information including encoded data and applicable time data defining a time period authorizing use of the encoded data;

a verification unit configured to verify whether the applicable time data included in the delivered piece of information in said memory has been falsified;

a plurality of decoding units configured to decode the encoded data stored in said memory;

a plurality of independently operated processing units arranged respectively corresponding to said plurality of decoding units and configured to respectively execute different operations on the data decoded by said plurality of decoding units;

a judging unit configured to judge if a current time is in the time period authorizing use of the encoded data according to the verified applicable time data in response to a request for an operation;

an operation command issuing unit configured to issue a command responding to the request for the operation to a corresponding decoding unit and a corresponding processing unit if the current time is judged by said judging unit to be in the time period authorizing use of the encoded data; and

an operation command reserving unit configured to prevent the issuance of a command responding to the request for the operation until the time authorizing use of the encoded data if the current time is judged by said judging unit not to be in the time period authorizing use of the encoded data.

MARKED-UP VERSION OF AMENDMENTS MADE

8. (Twice Amended) An information utilization apparatus comprising:

a memory configured to store a delivered piece of information including encoded data and applicable time data defining a time period authorizing use of the encoded data;

a verification unit configured to verify whether the applicable time data included in the delivered piece of information in said memory has been falsified;

a decoding unit configured to decode the encoded data stored in said memory;

a plain data storage unit configured to store the data decoded by said decoding unit;

a plurality of independently operated processing units configured to respectively execute different operations on the decoded data stored by said plain data storage unit;

a judging unit configured to judge if a current time is in the time period authorizing use of the encoded data according to the verified applicable time data in response to a request for an operation;

an operation command issuing unit configured to issue a command responding to the request for the operation to said decoding unit and a corresponding processing unit if the current time is judged by said judging unit to be in the time period authorizing use of the encoded data by referring to the verified applicable time data and said plain data storage unit does not store the decoded data, and to issue a command responding to the request for the operation to a corresponding processing unit if the current time is judged by said judging unit to be in the time period authorizing use of the encoded data and said plain data storage unit stores the decoded data; and

MARKED-UP VERSION OF AMENDMENTS MADE

an operation command reserving unit configured to prevent the issuance of a command responding to the request for the operation until the time authorizing use of the encoded data if the current time is judged by said judging unit not to be in the time period authorizing use of the encoded data.

10. (Twice Amended) An information access control method for use in an information utilization apparatus having a memory which stores a delivered piece of information including encoded data, said method comprising:

verifying whether applicable time data included in the delivered piece of information in said memory has been falsified, the applicable time data defining a time period authorizing use of the encoded data;

arranging a plurality of decoding units to decode the encoded data stored in said memory;

arranging a plurality of independently operated processing units respectively corresponding to said plurality of decoding units to respectively execute different operations on data decoded by said plurality of decoding units;

judging if a current time is in the time period authorizing use of the encoded data by referring to the verified applicable time data in response to a request for an operation; and

issuing a command responding to the request for the operation to a corresponding decoding unit and a corresponding processing unit if the current time is judged to be in the time period authorizing use of the encoded data by referring to the verified applicable time data.

MARKED-UP VERSION OF AMENDMENTS MADE

11. (Twice Amended) An information access control method for use in an information utilization apparatus having a memory which stores a delivered piece of information including encoded data, said method comprising:

verifying whether applicable time data included in the delivered piece of information in said memory has been falsified, the applicable time data defining a time period authorizing use of the encoded data;

arranging a decoding unit to decode the encoded data stored in said memory;

arranging a plain data storage unit to store data decoded by said decoding unit;

arranging a plurality of independently operated processing units to respectively execute different operations on data stored by said plain data storage unit;

judging if a current time is in the time period authorizing use of the encoded data by referring to the verified applicable time data in response to a request for an operation; and

issuing a command responding to the request for the operation to said decoding unit and a corresponding processing unit if the current time is judged to be in the time period authorizing use of the encoded data by referring to the verified applicable time data and said plain data storage unit does not store the decoded data, and issuing a command responding to the request for the operation to a corresponding processing unit if the current time is judged to be in the time period authorizing use of the encoded data and said plain data storage unit stores the decoded data.

MARKED-UP VERSION OF AMENDMENTS MADE

12. (Twice Amended) An information access control method for use in an information utilization apparatus having a memory which stores a delivered piece of information including encoded data, said method comprising:

verifying whether applicable time data included in the delivered piece of information in said memory has been falsified, the applicable time data defining a time period authorizing use of the encoded data;

arranging a plurality of decoding units to decode the encoded data stored in said memory;

arranging a plurality of independently operated processing units respectively corresponding to said plurality of decoding units to respectively execute different operations on data decoded by said plurality of decoding units;

judging if a current time is in the time period authorizing use of the encoded data by referring to the verified applicable time data in response to a request for an operation;

issuing a command responding to the request for the operation to a corresponding decoding unit and a corresponding processing unit if the current time is judged to be in the time period authorizing use of the encoded data; and

preventing the issuance of a command responding to the request for the operation until the time authorizing use of the encoded data if the current time is judged not to be in the time period authorizing use of the encoded data.

MARKED-UP VERSION OF AMENDMENTS MADE

13. (Twice Amended) An information access control method for use in an information utilization apparatus having a memory which stores a delivered piece of information including encoded data, said method comprising:

verifying whether applicable time data included in the delivered piece of information in said memory has been falsified, the applicable time data defining a time period authorizing use of the encoded data;

arranging a decoding unit to decode the encoded data stored in said memory;

arranging a plain data storage unit to store data decoded by said decoding unit;

arranging a plurality of independently operated processing units to respectively execute different operations on data stored by said plain data storage unit;

judging if a current time is in the time period authorizing use of the encoded data by referring to the verified applicable time data in response to a request for an operation;

issuing a command responding to the request for the operation to said decoding unit and a corresponding processing unit if the current time is judged to be in the time period authorizing use of the encoded data by referring to the verified applicable time data and said plain data storage unit does not store the decoded data, and issuing a command responding to the request for the operation to a corresponding processing unit if the current time is judged to be in the time period authorizing use of the encoded data and said plain data storage unit stores the decoded data; and

MARKED-UP VERSION OF AMENDMENTS MADE

preventing the issuance of a command responding to the request for the operation until the time authorizing use of the encoded data if the current time is judged not to be in the time period authorizing use of the encoded data.

15. (Twice Amended) A storage medium having program code instructions stored thereon which perform information access control when executed by a processor in an information utilization apparatus having a memory which stores a delivered piece of information including encoded data, said instructions comprising:

storing the delivered piece of information in said memory together with applicable time data not to be falsified, the applicable time data defining a time period authorizing use of the encoded data;

arranging a plurality of decoding units to decode the encoded data stored in said memory;

arranging a plurality of independently operated processing units respectively corresponding to said plurality of decoding units to respectively execute different operations on data decoded by said plurality of decoding units;

judging if a current time is in the time period authorizing use of the encoded data by referring to the applicable time data in response to a request for an operation; and

issuing a command responding to the request for the operation to a corresponding decoding unit and a corresponding processing unit if the current time is judged to be in the time period authorizing use of the encoded data by referring to the applicable time data.

MARKED-UP VERSION OF AMENDMENTS MADE

16. (Twice Amended) A storage medium having program code instructions stored thereon which perform information access control when executed by a processor in an information utilization apparatus having a memory which stores a delivered piece of information including encoded data, said instructions comprising:

storing the delivered piece of information in said memory together with applicable time data not to be falsified, the applicable time data defining a time period authorizing use of the encoded data;

arranging a decoding unit to decode the encoded data stored in said memory;

arranging a plain data storage unit to store data decoded by said decoding unit;

arranging a plurality of independently operated processing units to respectively execute different operations on data stored by said plain data storage unit;

judging if a current time is in the time period authorizing use of the encoded data by referring to the applicable time data in response to a request for an operation; and

issuing a command responding to the request for the operation to said decoding unit and a corresponding processing unit if the current time is judged to be in the time period authorizing use of the encoded data by referring to said applicable time data and said plain data storage unit does not store the decoded data, and issuing a command responding to the request for the operation to a corresponding processing unit if the current time is judged to be in the time period authorizing use of the encoded data and said plain data storage unit stores the decoded data.

MARKED-UP VERSION OF AMENDMENTS MADE

17. (Twice Amended) A storage medium having program code instructions stored thereon which perform information access control when executed by a processor in an information utilization apparatus having a memory which stores a delivered piece of information including encoded data, said instructions comprising:

storing the delivered piece of information in said memory together with applicable time data not to be falsified, the applicable time data defining a time period authorizing use of the encoded data;

arranging a plurality of decoding units to decode the encoded data stored in said memory;

arranging a plurality of independently operated processing units respectively corresponding to said plurality of decoding units to respectively execute different operations on data decoded by said plurality of decoding units;

judging if a current time is in the time period authorizing use of the encoded data by referring to applicable time data in response to a request for an operation;

issuing a command responding to the request for the operation to a corresponding decoding unit and a corresponding processing unit if the current time is judged to be in the time period authorizing use of the encoded data; and

preventing the issuance of a command responding to the request for the operation until the time authorizing use of the encoded data if the current time is judged not to be in the time period authorizing use of the encoded data.

MARKED-UP VERSION OF AMENDMENTS MADE

18. (Twice Amended) A storage medium having program code instructions stored thereon which perform information access control when executed by a processor in an information utilization apparatus having a memory which stores a delivered piece of information including encoded data, said instructions comprising:

storing the delivered piece of information in said memory together with applicable time data not to be falsified, the applicable time data defining a time period authorizing use of the encoded data;

arranging a decoding unit to decode the encoded data stored in said memory;

arranging a plain data storage unit to store data decoded by said decoding unit;

a plurality of independently operated processing units to respectively execute different operations on data stored by said plain data storage unit;

judging if a current time is in the time period authorizing use of the encoded data by referring to applicable time data in response to a request for an operation;

issuing a command responding to the request for the operation to said decoding unit and a corresponding processing unit if the current time is judged to be in the time period authorizing use of the encoded data by referring to said applicable time data and said plain data storage unit does not store the decoded data, and issuing a command responding to the request for the operation to a corresponding processing unit if the current time is judged to be in the time period authorizing use of the encoded data and said plain data storage unit stores the decoded data; and

MARKED-UP VERSION OF AMENDMENTS MADE

preventing the issuance of a command responding to the request for the operation until the time authorizing use of the encoded data if the current time is judged not to be in the time period authorizing use of the encoded data.